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EDITORIAL NOTES.

AT THE fag end of an administration Congress has very often come together for its second session in a lagging mood, the party that has triumphed at the polls being unable to carry out the popular mandate during such session—either because of the lack of a majority in one or both houses or because of a hostile executive. And under such circumstances the members of Congress are likely to drag through the necessary work of the short session. Under such circumstances they cannot be expected to throw much spirit into the session. For they necessarily feel it is for the next Congress to carry out, or attempt to carry out the popular commands as uncertainly registered at the ballot box; that for them to essay the task would be but to waste their time.

But the Fifty-sixth Congress meets in second session under very different circumstances. The party that has been entrusted with the popular mandate is in control of both houses, as well as of the executive branch of the government, and so is in position to at once set about enforcing that mandate as it reads it, has not to wait on the meeting of the new Congress, the inducting into office of those elected at the late election, for power to carry out the mandate of such election. It already has that power. And having that power it is expected to exercise it. The party in control of both Houses of Congress is inspired by the

And in a Spirit
that Bodes
Action.

elections. So the final session of the Fifty-sixth Congress is expected to be a session of action; that Congress is looked to to make more than the mere humdrum record of the average short session.

And it meets confronted with much work. Its days are likely to be crowded. It is urged to take up and dispose of many measures of importance, measures that under different conditions would be naturally left for the disposition of the Congress elect. But there is already in session a Congress in sympathy with the Congress elect. And it is called on to anticipate said Congress.

MOREOVER, there is one measure of importance, and aside from the great appropriation bills which make up the ordinary business of the short session, upon which early action, action by the present Congress is imperative. This measure is an army bill. We have at present an army of 100,000. But the authority for the

The Army Problem.

maintenance of such army expires on June 30th next. On that date, unless new legislation be enacted in the interim providing for its maintenance at a higher figure, it must be cut down to 30,000. And the maintenance of our position in the Philippines is dependent on the maintenance, for the present, of our army at its present size. Provision must be made for such maintenance or we must abandon our Philippine policy. Of course the party in power must insist on the making of such provision. Hence the insistence on the early enactment of an army bill that will make provision for the maintenance of our army at its present size. Congress must pass such a bill or virtually decree the dropping of the Philippines.

Imperativeness of its Early Solution.

In the event of the failure of Congress to act there would be no alternative before us other than withdrawal from the Philippines. In such event no other alternative is supposable unless we want to insult the President by supposing the second alternative that with a truly imperialistic usurpation of power he would keep up the army authorized or unauthorized.

Considering all the conditions it is inconceivable that Congress should fail to act, and act during the present session. For failure to act would make the calling of the Fifty-seventh Congress in extraordinary session imperative.

So we may set it down as certain that the present Congress will make some provision for keeping up the army to its present size before it adjourns. But in what way will this provision be

made? Secretary of War Root has submitted the draft of a bill, which has the endorsement of the President, providing for the reorganization of our army on the basis of a minimum force of 60,000 men, to be increased at the discretion of

The Administration Plan for Army Reorganization.

the President to a maximum force of 100,000, increased by merely enlarging the units of organization provided for in the minimum force. Such plan contemplates the placing of our regular army on a permanent footing of 60,000 men and during the continuance of the Philippine war on a footing of 100,000.

This army reorganization bill, submitted by Secretary Root and urged by the President, also looks to a breaking up of the highly bureaucratic organization of the General Staff or Adjutant-

General's department, in Washington, by providing for the detail of officers from the line of the army and for service in such department as vacancies occur. This would bring into that department officers who have learned in active service of the needs of the army under the new and changing circumstances in which it finds itself placed, would bring into that department officers of practical knowledge and so add to its efficiency. The House Committee on Military Affairs, or the Republican part of it, has approved the Root plan of army reorganization, with the exception of this last provision. General Miles has also prepared a plan for army reorganization that differs mainly from the Root plan in that it makes provision for one full general and two lieutenant-generals in place of one lieutenant-general, as now, and as under the Root plan—in a word, makes provision for the advancement of Lieutenant-General Miles to a higher rank.

Now, these plans contemplate a permanent increase in the army. Some are disposed to make provision for but a temporary increase, to extend the provisions of the present law for a period

**Alternative Plans
Providing for
Temporary
Rather than Per-
manent Increase.**

of one, two or three years. The Democrats, as a party, are not unlikely to oppose a permanent increase of the army, as they did two years ago, and strive to force the acceptance, by the Republicans, of a measure providing for a temporary increase. But keeping up the army by makeshift legislation, legislation such as the Democrats forced on the Republicans two years ago, that necessitates the disbandment of our army and the organization of a new at the expiration of every period for which a temporary increase of the army is authorized, and authority renewed for a further increase for a limited period, must needs add greatly to the cost of the needed military force. Much more economically, at much less burden

**The Extrava-
gance of Such.**

to the taxpayers could it be maintained as a permanent force. The fruit of the successful resistance of the Democrats to the granting of authority for a permanent increase in the army two years ago must now be reaped as an increase in the expenditures necessary to keep up the army to the desired footing. If there was anything real gained by making provision for temporary increases in the army, and over the making of provision for a permanent increase, the increased costs might be cheerfully borne. But is there anything real gained? The gain is assumed to rest on the fact that Congress making provision for only temporary increases keeps in its hands power to cut down the army at any time. But it would have that power though it made provision for a permanent increase, and though, when it came to repeal such provision, a hostile executive stood in the way. For it would remain in the power of Congress, aye in the power of either house, to force a cutting down of the army by simply refusing to vote the money for its support.

OF THE measures of importance pressed upon Congress, action on none is so imperative as on an army bill. But there is another measure that Congress can ill afford not to take up and push to a conclusion. That is a bill reapportioning representation among the several

**Another Measure
That Presses—A
Reapportionment
Bill.**

states upon the basis of the census of the present year. Such apportionment must be made by this Congress to give the state legislatures opportunity to re-arrange districts in their respective states in time for the elections of the Fifty-eighth Congress in the fall of 1902. If action is not taken this winter, but left till the assembling of the new Congress a year hence, general re-arrangement of Congressional districts in time for the election of 1902 will be out of the question.

It is the duty of the present Congress to make time for the enactment of a re-apportionment bill. Of course the pressing of

such bill may open up the whole question of negro disfranchisement and so lead to prolonged and bitter discussion. Representative Crumpacker has already introduced a re-apportionment bill that cuts down the representation of those southern states that by law have disfranchised a large proportion of their negro citizens, and if his Republican colleagues refuse to join him in reporting such a measure to the House, but report a measure that simply ignores the question of disfranchisement and the Fourteenth Amendment, and apportions representatives among the states according to their respective populations, he declares he will submit a minority report. But as the President wants to establish an era of good feeling, as Republicans in general want to economize the time of the session, as the policy they are supporting in our new possessions is making them sort of callous to the disfranchisement of the negroes in the South, it is not likely that Mr. Crumpacker will find much support among his colleagues, even on the Republican side of the House.

Further, and as Senator Chandler very pertinently remarks, "if the right of suffrage is reduced in any state on account of an intelligence qualification applied in form, or in fact, to the

**And the Question
of Negro Disfran-
chisement.**

black people alone and not to the white people, it would not be wise to ratify the wrong done and seek to obtain for it a partial recompense by reducing representation." The disfranchisement of men because of color is unconstitutional, and the state constitutions of the South that effect such disfranchisement in a round-about way ought to be so declared and set aside by the Supreme Court of the United States. Test cases are now pending before that Court.

However, a state has an undoubted right to abridge the suffrage by imposing educational or property or other qualifications not based on color, and in such case Congress has an undoubted right, aye, it is its duty, to reduce the representation of such state in the proportion that the number of disfranchised citizens bears to the whole. And it is such right that several southern states claim to be acting under in abridging the suffrage, set up the claim that the so-called "grandfather clauses" do not in name rest on the color of men's skins, and are therefore constitutional. The Supreme Court may uphold them in their contention, and then it would become the duty of Congress to reduce the representation of such States in the proportion that the disfranchised citizens bears to the whole. But should Congress attempt this it would run up against a snag in the lack of data upon which to base action. For the census does not supply such data, and of course the easy way of taking the vote polled in the states as a basis for action, and as so many hastily do, is out of the question. For the fact that a large percentage of the men in any state do not vote is no proof that an equal percentage of the citizens of such state are disfranchised by law.

TO THE rehabilitation of the American marine in the foreign carrying trade the Republican party is pledged, and the ship subsidy bill looking to the promotion of such end is being pressed with much vigor upon Congress. It

**The Rehabilita-
tion of Our
Ocean Marine.**

stands a fair show of enactment during the present session. It provides for the payment of subsidies, graded on a basis of tonnage and speed, to American vessels engaged in the foreign trade. The aggregate payment of subsidies in any one year under the bill is limited to \$9,000,000. And some have rashly assumed that the bill, if enacted, would immediately call for such outlay. But our present tonnage engaged in the foreign trade would have to be increased three-fold before the limit was reached. When it was reached the subsidy rate would be reduced to all claimants in such proportion as would keep the total payments within the

sum named. The payments under this bill would hardly exceed \$3,000,000 for the first year.

Now only about nine per cent. of our foreign commerce is carried in American bottoms. The total registered tonnage of shipping in the world is placed at about 29 million tons, steamships making up 22.3 millions of this tonnage and sailing ships 6.7 millions. Of the aggregate tonnage about 14 millions is credited to Great Britain and 5 millions to the United States. But only about 800,000 tons of our tonnage is engaged in the foreign trade. The rest is engaged in coastwise trade, on the Great Lakes, and a small percentage on our rivers.

Of ships of the larger and speedier kind such as are fit to compete in the foreign trade we have but few. Yet there is no reason why we should not have many. To conquer the trade of

Defense of the Subsidy Bill.

the world we have more need of merchantmen than battle ships. To encourage the building of such ships, the creation of an American merchant marine, is the aim of the subsidy bill. The possession of such a marine, of numerous high class vessels readily convertible into auxiliary cruisers would add greatly to our power for national defense. And to possess ourselves of such increased power we can afford to make some sacrifices. Rather we cannot afford not to make some moderate sacrifices. But it is our belief that an outlay made in the building up of an efficient ocean marine of our own would in the long run pay,—pay in dollars and cents, secure a reduction in freight rates as well as better transportation facilities, a saving of freights largely in excess of subsidy payments. For in the end, and as the result of a policy of encouragement, we believe the cost of ship construction would become less in America than anywhere else, that through the introduction of mechanical appliances we would learn to run our ships at less cost. At present it is a fact that an ocean freight steamer of the larger class cannot be built so cheaply in America as in England, not so cheaply by twenty per cent; that an American manned steamer costs more to run than an English. But the materials that go to construct a steamer are to be had to-day cheaper in America than in England. The greater cost of building is due to the fact, and the fact alone, that there is not or has not been enough building of vessels of the larger class to make possible the introduction of economies in their construction, such as are practiced in English yards. Fill our shipyards with this class of work, and the enactment of the subsidy bill would probably lead to their filling, and in a short time we would be producing ships at less cost than they could be produced anywhere else in the world.

THE report of the Isthmian Canal Commission transmitted by the President to Congress on Tuesday, picks the Nicaragua route as "the most practicable and feasible route for an isthmian

Report of the Isthmian Canal Commission.

canal, under the control, management and ownership of the United States." It picks this route, not that the Panama route is not feasible, not that the cost of a canal by the Panama route would be greater, for aside from compensation that might have to be made to the Panama Canal Company for work already done it would be decidedly less, but that the said company is not prepared to transfer all its property in the canal to the United States that the route when completed might be under our full control, management and ownership. The Commission reports that a 35 foot canal on the Nicaragua route will cost \$200,540,000 and can be completed within ten years; that there has been done work on the Panama canal of the value of \$33,934,463, and estimates the cost of completing such canal at \$142,342,579. It points out that as a completed water way the Panama canal would have some advantages over the Nicaragua canal. Its chief advantage would lie in a shorter route, so that ships could be

passed through it in much less time than through a canal on the Nicaragua route. But, on the other hand, the Nicaragua route has advantages for us over the Panama in the fact that, being situated further north, its opening would shorten the water communication between our two coasts considerably more than the opening of the Panama canal. The Commission further expresses the opinion that the Panama Canal Company could not be induced to sell its property to the United States at a price that would bring the total cost of such canal within the cost at which a canal on the Nicaragua route may be had. And so the Commission affirms its opinion that it will be the part of wisdom for the United States to settle on the Nicaragua route without more ado, dismiss the Panama route and the Panama Company from the mind.

Perhaps after the Panama Canal Company has had time to digest this report it may feel more inclined to sell, if indeed it has any right to sell to a foreign government under its concession.

IF CONGRESS finds any hours hanging on its hands during the busy session upon which it has just entered it may well turn to the report of the Comptroller of the Currency, Mr. Dawes, for some food for thought. For in that report are suggestions worthy of its attention. Mr.

Comptroller Dawes' Report.

Dawes directs attention to the fact that on June 29th last, 18,534 directors of national banks, out of 28,709, were directly or indirectly indebted to the banks under their own management; that these directors and 2,279 officers and employees who were not directors were indebted to the banks in the sum of \$202,287,441, an amount almost equal to one-third of their capital and about 7½ per cent. of their total loans. This declaration of the Comptroller has been announced with prominent headlines in the daily papers as if it was a startling bit of information. If they could learn how much more directors and officers had borrowed in the name of straw borrowers, and such borrowing is a common practice, they would have a greater cause to be startled.

But the part of the Comptroller's report most interesting to us is not this disclosure, which does not surprise us, but its recommendation that the national bank act be amended so as to

Wise Recommendations.

require banks in the reserve cities to keep their reserves in their own vaults, whereas they may now keep one-half of their required reserve of 25 per cent. against deposits in the so-called central reserve cities of New York, Chicago and St. Louis, on deposit with the banks of those cities, and so as to require all banks outside of the reserve cities to keep four-fifths of their reserves at home in place of two-fifths. And the facts the Comptroller advances in support of his recommendations are convincing. They are the facts that we have on more than one occasion advanced in support of a demand that the bank act be amended so as to require all banks to keep their reserves in their own vaults. Thus Mr. Dawes points out that "during the great panic of 1893 New York banks refused to ship currency in response to demands from banks in the interior for a considerable time, showing in the extreme test of panic that the reserve which had been counted as cash by the banks of the country was not, in fact, at all times available to enable them to meet the demands of their depositors," and he also directs attention to the fact that "sudden demands for deposits with reserve agents may cause panics in the midst of prosperous conditions, as in the summer of 1899, particularly when such demand follows close upon an era of speculation rendered possible in Eastern cities by the very reserve fund which prosperous times encourage the interior banks to leave in the East."

PRESIDENT KRUGER has found that there is no power in Europe ready to so much as ask England to accept its services as mediator to bring about a cessation of strife in South

President Kruger in Europe.

Africa, where the British make a waste and call it peace. For the Powers of Europe know that such proffer would give England offense. And so to the appeals of Kruger for mediation, let alone intervention, they make no response. The reception which was accorded him in France buoyed up his hopes. But the German Emperor has administered to him a rebuff that has borne in on him the vainness of his search. And even France, sympathetic France, had for him but words of sympathy, no offers of help. President Kruger has learned that for those who struggle against superior force, bravely but vainly for liberty, there is much sympathy but no help. The giving of sympathy costs nothing, the giving of help much. And that which costs is not given. When Kruger landed at Marseilles there was a note of pathos in his first speech, a ringing note of undying hatred for the English, of sublime faith, finally of defiance. "Our great, imperishable confidence," he said, "reposes in the Eternal, in our God. We know our cause is just, and if the justice of men is wanting to us, He, the Eternal, who is Master of all peoples, and to whom belongs the future, will never abandon us." Oom Paul has great need of this faith to-day, for to it he must look for the comfort that Europe holds not for him.

But if Kruger is not making much of an impression in Europe and through Europe on England, a General De Wet, down in South Africa, carrying off a British garrison of 400 men, threatening to make a raid into Cape Colony again alive with the spirit of revolt, and the spectre of the great costs of the war looming before the British taxpayer is. And so we have the *London Statist*, the financial oracle of the "city," raising a voice for peace. "We are losing," it remarks, "in every way, losing in prestige and losing in trade."

Things Cooling to Jingoism.

We are seeing our South African possessions plunged into greater and greater distress and the opinion is gaining ground abroad that we are incapable of bringing the struggle to a satisfactory termination."

An income tax of a shilling on the pound or five per cent., the prospect of a general increase of indirect taxes is cooling to the spirit of jingoism.

Deafness Cannot be Cured

by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure Deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube gets inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed Deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are caused by catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of Deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars, free.

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Resumption of Sunset Limited Service between New York, Philadelphia and San Francisco, Season 1900-1901, via Southern Railway.

Commencing November 6th, and every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday thereafter, the Washington and Southwestern Limited, operated daily between New York, Philadelphia and New Orleans via the Pennsylvania R. R. and Southern Railway, leaving Philadelphia, Broad St. Station 6.55 P. M., composed of Dining, Pullman Drawing-room, Sleeping, Observation and Library cars, in addition will carry a Special Sunset Limited Annex, Pullman drawing-room Compartment Sleeping car to connect with the Sunset Limited operated between New Orleans and San Francisco.

The celebrated trans-continental service afforded by these luxurious trains makes a trip to the Pacific Coast not only very quick, but most delightful.

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

AS A message writer President McKinley plays the rôle of official historian. In his message sent to Congress last Monday he well sustains this rôle. He records at considerable and, when he takes up matters of minor moment, almost tiresome length, the happenings of the year in which the Government of the United States has had a part. As he has had a conspicuous part in the shaping of those happenings the record he writes is naturally not that of the unprejudiced historian. For his constant effort, conscious and unconscious, is to justify his actions to the American Congress and the American people, on whom he has to rely for support. But as official historian he has not, on the whole, acquitted himself badly.

Its Note of Optimism.

If the President is an opportunist he is equally an optimist. And since the last elections he is naturally more of an optimist than ever. Consequently there runs through his message a cheerful tone, a decided note of optimism, of confident reliance and hope. There are no dreary warnings of evils to be shunned. If there are rocks ahead he sees them and is confident the course of this nation will be shaped so as to avoid them. And equally is he confident that as the nation plows its way along, such new rocks as may loom up will be seen and passed in safety. The President is indeed a cheerful pilot. And with this spirit of cheerfulness we will not quarrel, however much we may with what we may regard as a mistaken optimism.

Its Breadth of Scope and Barrenness of Suggestion.

The President's message is a record of happenings rather than of recommendation. Indeed, considering its length—and it would about fill all the pages of one issue of *THE AMERICAN*—it is wonderfully barren of recommendations or even hints to Congress. And such recommendations as the President does make, recommendations concerning important matters, such as the rehabilitation of our ocean marine, the building of an isthmian canal, and the reduction of the war taxes are made in most general terms. In major matters he only becomes explicit when he speaks of army affairs and points out the necessity of maintaining for the present an army of 100,000 men. If the army is not held up to that number, or something very near to that number, the Philippines cannot be held. And the authority to hold the army up to such number expires on June 30th next. No new legislation, and on that date the army must fall back to a 30,000 footing. Hence the President's explicitness on the score of army increase. But of all this more later.

One-half and the first part of the President's message is devoted to a discussion, or rather detailing of our foreign relations, important and unimportant, of prime interest and no interest, during the past year. And full one-half of the remainder is taken up with a discussion of Philippine and Cuban affairs. Thus in his message the importance of other and domestic questions is dwarfed by the pre-eminence given to these outside questions. And this is especially so from the fact that much of the contracted space that he does devote to the consideration of domestic affairs is given up to matters of very minor importance, to a summarizing of some of the recommendations made in the reports of his secretaries.

The President's Disclaimer of Imperialism, and the Doctrine of Popular Government.

At the outset the President takes occasion to disclaim the charge of imperialism, not in direct words, but in declaration of pride in the Republic, in expression of gratification at the perpetuation of republican institutions and the progress made under such in our country, in utterance of a prayer of thanksgiving thereover. In words of reverence he declares that "the efficiency of popular government as the best instrument of national development and the best safeguard of human rights" has been

demonstrated here by one hundred and twenty-four years of trial. And are we to put these down as mere words of hypocrisy? In the heat of a campaign many might and would. But after?

It is true that the President does not carry the doctrine of popular government—if that doctrine is taken to mean that all men are born with equal political rights—into the Philippines. And it is true that many of the President's supporters would carry this doctrine into our Southern States, apply it to the negroes of those States, while refusing to carry it into the Philippines. And a curious fact it is that the Democrats who repudiate this doctrine in the Southern States insist that it be given force in our new possessions. Thus is consistency lacking in one camp as it is in the other. But therefore we need not stamp all those who raise their voices in these camps as hypocrites, rather stamp them as blinded by their prejudices. The Republicans laughing to scorn the doctrine that all men are by nature endowed with equal political rights, and when asked to apply it in the Philippines, ought not to take offence at a denial of this doctrine by the Democrats of the South. And whether it be from a realizing sense of the inconsistency of many of his supporters, or perhaps for purely political reasons and an inherent indisposition to stir up a hornet's nest, it may be said of the President that he is gently restraining those of his followers who are insistent on enforcing a doctrine in the South, backed up by constitutional amendments, that they refuse to regard in shaping a Philippine policy.

The Root of the Chinese Troubles.

In his discussion of foreign affairs the President naturally gives first place to consideration of the anti-foreign uprising in China and the measures that have been taken consequent thereon. He begins by detailing the causes lying behind that uprising—detailing them as they appear to him. And we must say he takes a very pro-foreign view, the pro-foreign view that is at the bottom of all the troubles. Unquestionably, and as the President puts it, the Boxer movement had its origin in the pushing of foreign innovations in China. But it was something more than the mere pushing of foreign innovations that was at the root of the troubles. It was in the way they were pushed, pushed in a way offensive to the Chinese people, pushed in a way that ought to be offensive and ought to be resented by any people, pushed with the threat of shotted guns. And then it was made apparent that those who were pushing all these innovations were pushing them that they might dispoil the Chinese people. At least the Chinese people so felt. Besides, the foreign interlopers, as they were regarded, looked down upon and treated the Chinese with contempt. Hence the resentment. And when on occasion this resentment, unreasoning, flamed out in Shan Tung, and resulted in the murder of two German missionaries, the Germans stepped in and seized the port of Kiau Chou and adjacent territory. All of which naturally added to the flame of resentment.

The President's Misconception of the Problem.

And it is this contempt of the average foreigner for the Chinaman, the contempt that breeds contemptuous treatment and leads to all sorts of troubles, that seems to have hold of the President. Thus we have him speaking of the carrying of new ideas and the introducing of new associations "among a primitive people which had pursued for centuries a national policy of isolation." Thus he speaks of the Chinese as a "primitive" people as if they were barbarians. Even so do the Chinese regard the outside world, and with as good reason, as barbarian. Thus do misunderstandings grow, out of the absolute misconception by each race of the civilization of the other. So to read such words of President McKinley as the above pains us, for

they are expressive of narrowness, the narrowness of vision, the misconception that in high places invites trouble.

The President fails to see the Chinese side of the case, to see the foreign Powers as the Chinese see them—namely, as spoilers. With truth he remarks that the Boxer influence narrowed about Peking in the late spring and early summer, that "while it was nominally stigmatized as seditious . . . the Imperial forces were imbued with its doctrines, and that the immediate counsellors of the Empress Dowager were in full sympathy with the anti-foreign movement." But, primarily, what was the doctrine of the Boxers with which the Imperial forces became imbued and with which the Imperial Counsellors, aye, why except the Empress Dowager, were in full sympathy? It was briefly "China for the Chinese." And what discredit to the Imperial troops if they became imbued with this doctrine, what discredit to the Imperial Counsellors that they encouraged its spread? Their discredit came in the reprehensible way they encouraged it, in the atrocious and at the same time blindly foolish way they strove to carry it out, the way but to invite vengeance and defeat. Primarily, the uprising was against despoilment, fanaticism swayed it and the excesses that this led to, the diabolical massacres of missionaries and Chinese converts, the violation of the sanctity of the legation grounds at Peking, made its success impossible.

Yet the Powers are not guiltless of having done much to stir this fanaticism to a white heat at the very time it was boiling. We are thankful that the United States has not to share this guilt. Before the legations had been attacked, before communications with Peking, the legation guards inside and the foreign gunboats at Tien Tsin had been severed, "while preparations," says the President, "were in progress to strengthen the legation guards and keep the railway open, an attempt of the foreign ships to make a landing at Taku was met by a fire from the Chinese forts. The forts were thereupon shelled by the foreign vessels, the American Admiral taking no part in the attack, on the ground that we were not at war with China and that a hostile demonstration might consolidate the anti-foreign elements and strengthen the Boxers to oppose the relieving column." And, he it remarked, said hostile demonstration did just this.

The President's Policy—Hold the Guilty to Account.

However, though the ill-timed action of some of the Powers may have goaded the Boxers into display of greater fanatical zeal and aided them to greatly increase their numbers and power, and though the Chinese Government may plead, or Li Hung Chang and Prince Ching on its behalf may plead that it could not control the Boxers thus recruited, that it was powerless to protect the legations from attack, such excuse cannot be accepted. For, as the President says, "irresistible proof accumulates that the attacks upon the legations were made by Imperial troops, regularly uniformed, armed and officered, belonging to the command of Jung Lu, the Imperial commander-in-chief," and "decrees encouraging the Boxers, organizing them under prominent Imperial officers, . . . even granting them large sums in the name of the Empress Dowager, are known to exist." So guilt hangs around the necks of Imperial Counsellors and cannot be shaken off. Their punishment, the punishment of those primarily responsible for the sustained attacks on the legations by Imperial troops, and the Boxer excesses, as well as money reparation for the damages done, is properly demanded.

But Ask Not Reparation Beyond China's Ability to Perform.

But, remarks the President in his message, the making of such money reparation may be beyond the ability of China. And he trusts, and he calls attention to the emphatic disclaimers of the Powers of any purpose of aggrandizement through the dismemberment of China, that such inability will not be made an excuse for the dismemberment of the Empire. He would look with extreme disfavor on any Power taking steps looking to such dismemberment.

The President Suggests Forms of Compensation that Would Be Acceptable in Lieu of Money.

The President suggests that if unable to make full reparation in money for damage done, the Chinese government could make due compensation "in part by increased guarantees of security for foreign rights and immunities, and, most important of all, by the opening of China to the equal commerce of all the world."

We wonder how many millions a year the President fancies the opening of China to the commerce of all the world would be worth to us? He evidently has in mind profits to be had from such opening of an entrancing magnitude. For surely he, as many others, is entranced with the prospect of such trade opening. Yet what a delusive picture they are all building on! If they would but turn their eyes across the Himalayas to England's great possession they might be disillusioned, and to their and our great profit. For around the picture of this trade conjured up in many minds, and so entrancing in the distance, we are building a foreign policy calculated to lead us to great departures, into costly entanglements. If they would so turn their eyes they would see a great country of nearly three hundred millions of people, they would see a great country that has buried in its earth not a tithe of the mineral wealth of China, a country not so capable of producing all that it needs, a country by nature not so industrially independent, a country open to the commerce of all the world, a country in which the consumption of foreign goods amounts to not more than the munificent sum of 60 or 70 cents per capita per annum. The western world has not found a great market for its goods in India, much less will it find a great market in China upon the taking down of the doors to trade, all the hindrances of internal customs tariffs and poor transportation that now exist. For China has the resources and she has the labor to produce for herself all that she needs and at less cost than Western nations can produce for her.

The Security of Foreigners in China.

And then as to compensation in the shape of increased guarantees of security for foreigners and foreign interests in China. Such guarantees are much to be desired. But how are they to be given? Paper promises may be demanded and readily given, but such promises, unless backed up by public sentiment, will amount to nothing. And a fact it is, painful to record, that the conduct of many of the foreign troops in China during the present year has not been such as to create such sentiment, has not been such as to do other than intensify hostile sentiment. The foreigner in China during the past year has simply succeeded in making himself better hated than ever. The effect of such "punitive" expeditions as have been carried on in North China has not been to disabuse Chinamen of the idea that the name of "foreign devil" given to the foreigner is ill-applied. And this does not give assurance of greater security for foreigners and foreign interests in China in the future, but quite the reverse. For paper guarantees will not insure security to foreigners in a country where they rest over a volcano of hate. And such is the state of China. Unless security be secured in such country by exercise of force, by a foreign policing and administration of the country, such as England exercises in India, and from the very thought of which we shrink, the security of the foreigner in China can only be won as he may succeed in living down his reputation as a "foreign devil." And for the most part, certainly so far as the German soldiery in Peking is concerned, that reputation he is not now living down but rather adding to.

Careful to Demand Only That Which China Can Perform.

But all this aside, the suggestion of the President that in lieu of money compensation for damage done, and that China might find herself unable to make, guarantees of security for foreign rights and an opening of China to the equal commerce of

the world might well be accepted by the Powers, is an assurance that he is opposed to the making of any demands upon China with which she cannot comply, assurance that he wants to keep open, not block up, the paths for the preservation of the territorial and administrative entity of the Chinese Nation. And further assurance does he give of this when, with the acceptance of a convenient diplomatic fiction, an acceptance we cannot regard as other than wise, he excuses the Empress Dowager from responsibility for the anti-foreign troubles and makes no demand for her punishment—a demand insistence on which would simply close the doors to peace. On "exemplary and deterrent punishment of the responsible authors and abettors of the criminal acts whereby we and other nations have suffered grievous injury," he asserts that he will insist. "For the real culprits," he adds, "the evil counsellors who have misled the Imperial judgment and diverted the sovereign authority to their own guilty ends (thus does he exclude the Empress), full expiation becomes imperative within the rational limits of retributive justice." To the suggestion of Russia that "in the event of protracted divergence of views in regard to indemnities the matter be relegated to the Court of Arbitration at the Hague" he declares he is favorably inclined.

Nicaraguan Canal Problems.

From the all-important Chinese matter the President passes to consideration of subjects coming within the realm of our foreign relations and of minor interest. He resurrects every little forgotten difficulty that has confronted the State Department during the past year, besides calling attention to the several disputes that remain in unsettled state, the most important one of which, temporarily covered by a *modus vivendi*, concerns the Alaskan boundary. He has much to say of the Paris exposition and of the prominent place taken by American exhibitors, he pays a compliment to Japan, goes into a multitude of matters. But we come down to the paragraphs on Nicaraguan affairs before we come to anything of more than passing interest. And the striking thing we meet with here is the failure of the President to urge upon Congress with any explicitness the building of an isthmian canal. He directs attention to the cancellation by Nicaragua of the concessions granted to private companies, and the forfeiture, under the terms of its concession and for non-fulfillment of contract, of the interests of the Marathime Canal Company in the little construction work done under its auspices. The President remarks in a non-committal way that protests against such forfeiture have been filed with the State Department of the United States, protests that, if there is any foundation for them, which we doubt, it may be the duty of this Government to press even though it be against its own interest. And not to prejudice claims on behalf of its citizens that the United States may be called on to press the President speaks of them in non-committal way. But he does not point out that Nicaragua now considers herself relieved from all existing engagements, free to enter into negotiations with the United States and shows a disposition to deal fairly with the canal question. "Overtures for a convention to effect the building of a canal by the United States are," he says, "under consideration," and adds that "in the meantime" Congress may concern itself, in the light of the report of the canal commission which has been submitted, in considering where the canal had best be built. All of which does not brighten the possibility of canal legislation at this session of Congress. For the Hay-Pauncefote treaty he still expresses love and commends it to the early attention of the Senate, rather hinting that its ratification must precede canal legislation unless Congress wants to invite his veto.

Hints at the Need of Additional Currency Legislation in Two Directions.

Sandwiched in between the President's discussion of our foreign relations and Philippine affairs we have some considera-

tion of domestic questions. The President directs attention to the expansion of our revenues and diminution of our expenditures during the past fiscal year as compared to the fiscal year 1899, to the reduction of the public debt during the past year by fifty odd millions, to the refunding of a large part of our national debt under the provisions of the law of March 14th of this year, to the size of the gold reserve in the Treasury. Without any great display of imperativeness or show of earnestness he calls for new legislation to strengthen the gold standard law passed by Congress last spring, presumably legislation that would strengthen it by explicitly making silver dollars and all forms of national currency exchangeable at the Treasury for gold, saying "it will be the duty, as I am sure it will be the disposition, of the Congress to provide whatever legislation is needed to insure the continued parity under all conditions between our two forms of metallic money, silver and gold." He also remarks that "the party in power is committed to such legislation as will better make the currency responsive to the varying needs of business at all seasons and in all sections,"—a declaration that is certainly wanting in explicitness, but may be fairly taken, we think, as a timid recommendation of legislation authorizing a bank asset currency, or the issue by the national banks, under certain limitations, of a currency unsecured by pledge of any special security.

The Revenue Question and What We Have Done With a Surplus.

As we have said, the President directs attention to the revenue question, and we might here add that he recommends a reduction of the war taxes "in the sum of thirty millions of dollars," further expressing the opinion that this "reduction should be secured by remission of those taxes which experience has shown to be most burdensome to the industries of the people." Now in round figures, with no regard for odd millions, we are going to tell a good deal more than the President does and be a good deal more explicit. To begin with, let it be remarked that we have already come within \$50,000,000 of paying for the costs of the war with Spain, and the costs growing out of that war, out of our tax levy. Our expenditures during the fiscal years 1899 and 1900 exceeded our aggregate expenditures for the two years before the Spanish war by \$400,000,000. On the other hand the national revenues for the years 1899-1900 showed an increase over the said two previous years of \$350,000,000. Now, of this \$350,000,000 forty per cent. was due to natural increase, to increasing business of the country, and to the Dingley tariff, not the war imposts. The deficit in ordinary revenues for these years is shown at only about \$50,000,000. And during the war period the resources of the Treasury were added to by \$200,000,000 of extraordinary receipts, proceeds of the war loan. Consequently there has resulted a surplus of receipts over expenditures during the past two years of \$150,000,000. What has become of it? Fifty odd millions have been applied to a reduction of the principal of the public debt, thirty-five millions more to a reduction of the interest charge on the public debt—this in the refunding operations,—and the cash balance in the Treasury is some sixty-five millions larger to-day than in the month when the Maine was blown up.

The Question of Tax Reduction.

Further, Mr. Gage estimates the expenditures for the current year at \$500,000,000, and the revenues, if no taxes be repealed, at \$580,000,000, a probable surplus of \$80,000,000. Hence the President's recommendation for a reduction of war taxes in the sum of \$30,000,000; fifty millions, in the estimation of the authorities, being a proper sum to reserve for the reduction of the national debt through purchase of bonds for the sinking fund.

And now as to the proposals for a reduction of taxation in the sum of \$30,000,000. The President recommends that the "reduction be secured by remission of those taxes which expe-

rience has shown to be most burdensome to the industries of the people." But what are those taxes? In the mind of the shoe manufacturers the customs tax on hides is doubtless one of the most burdensome to industry. This tax turns about two millions a year into the Treasury, and, say the shoe manufacturers, its repeal would not be felt by the Treasury while its remission would be much felt by them. But this tax, though comparatively new, being imposed by the Dingley law, is not one of the war taxes and so ruled out by the President. In the estimation of the brewers the extra war tax on beer, which turns \$30,000,000 into the Treasury a year is doubtless one of the most burdensome on industry. And the tobacco manufacturers would doubtless say that the war tax on tobacco, yielding about \$15,000,000 of revenue, is one of the most burdensome; while the manufacturers of proprietary articles doubtless consider the tax on their products as coming in this category. The stamp taxes on stock exchange sales, stock deliveries and transfers, are likely to stand, as speculating in stocks can hardly be classed as an industry. But the penny tax on express packages and telegrams, which is annoying rather than burdensome, is likely to go.

The war tax, the repeal of which would, above all others, relieve the masses of our people, is, however, not among those mentioned above. It is the tea tax—a tax calculated to turn seven or eight millions of dollars into the Treasury every year, and take ten cents out of the pocket of every one who buys a pound of tea. For this tax has been added into the price of tea, while the beer tax, for instance, has not been added into the price of a glass of beer, but has been shouldered somewhere between the brewer and saloon keeper. The remission of another tax that would be more directly felt by the people than the remission of any of the war taxes other than that on tea, is the tax on sugar imports. A halving of the present tax would, with very little doubt, reduce the price of sugar to the consumer by one cent a pound while cutting off about \$30,000,000 of revenue. And tax remissions that would secure to our people their tea at ten cents less a pound and their sugar at one cent less a pound than now, would confer more general benefit than the repeal of any of our internal revenue taxes. But such remissions are ruled out by the President's recommendation, he confining his recommendation to the internal revenue taxes that were imposed as war taxes.

Under the inheritance tax bequests to literary, educational or charitable institutions are now taxed from five to fifteen per cent., according to the size of the bequests. In fact, the highest rates imposed by the inheritance tax fall on such bequests. It is doubtful if Congress ever intended to tax such bequests, probable that it made such bequests taxable, and at the highest rate known to the law, unwittingly, and President McKinley specifically urges the repeal of so much of the inheritance tax as applies to such bequests.

Our Ocean Marine.

Following his recommendation for tax reduction, the President takes up in order the questions of our ocean marine and trusts. But he makes no explicit recommendations, confines himself to reiterating the general remarks that he has submitted in previous messages. It is to be noted that he gives no specific endorsement of the Hanna-Payne Ship Subsidy bill. On the question of the general rehabilitation of our ocean marine we have made some remarks elsewhere.

The Philippine Question.

Dismissing the trust question the President takes up the Philippine question. He takes a roseate view of the situation, which is hardly in harmony with his later declaration of the imperative need of keeping up our army to 100,000 men if we are to hold our own in those islands. He quotes at length his instructions to the Taft Commission now in the Philippines,

instructions heretofore published. In these instructions he proclaims for the United States high and disinterested motives, cautions the Commission in ruling and shaping a government in the Philippines to ever "bear in mind that the government they are establishing is designed not for our satisfaction or for the expression of our theoretical views, but for the happiness, peace and prosperity of the people of the Philippine Islands." This being the case, it would be just as well to let those people have a say as to what their government may be.

The President's instructions to the Commission are to first set up municipal governments, in which the natives shall be afforded an opportunity to manage their local affairs. This to school the natives in the arts of self-government, and as a step to higher things. He suggests in these instructions that the uncivilized tribes be accorded semi-sovereignty, much as the American Indians, but the civilized tribes must be brought under subjection. Further, he remarks, or rather instructs that both civil and military officers of the United States in the Philippines be impressed with the prime duty of treating the people of the Philippines "with the same courtesy and respect for their personal dignity which the people of the United States are accustomed to require of each other." An instruction quite unobserved by our soldiers who feel scant respect for the Filipinos, and fail to show a respect they do not feel—regard them as of an inferior race and fail to treat them with the same courtesy they would extend to their equals.

"The fortune of war," remarks the President, after finishing his citation of the instructions, his instructions to the Taft Commission, "has thrown upon this nation an unsought trust, which should be unselfishly discharged." "It is our duty," he concludes, "so to treat them (the Filipinos) that our flag may be no less beloved in the mountains of Luzon and the fertile zones of Mindanao and Negros than it is at home; that there, as here, it shall be the revered symbol of liberty, enlightenment and progress in every avenue of development." It is painful to recall that once, and for a few short months, it was so revered. It ceased to be when under its folds we struck at liberty, overthrew the republic Filipinos had reared.

Army Legislation That the President Demands.

Passing over our Cuban relations by citing at length the call for the Constitutional Convention and the address of General Wood to that convention on the occasion of its assembling, the President comes to the army question. He directs attention to the fact that the army now consists of 65,000 regulars and a so-called volunteer force of 35,000; that under the existing law "on the 30th of June next the present volunteer force will be discharged and the regular army will be reduced to 2,447 officers and 29,025 enlisted men." He then points out that to man the forts we have built and armed at great expense, built and armed under a program laid down a dozen years ago, a minimum force of 18,420 men is needed. He adds that other than these coast defense fortifications there are 58 military posts in the United States, that Congress is constantly adding to their number (it had better abolish some of their number), and that to properly garrison these posts 26,000 troops are required. Thus the President suggests a home establishment of 44,000 men as against an establishment of 27,000 before the Spanish War. Then there are our island possessions to be provided for, which leads to the conclusion set down in the message that "it must be apparent that we will require an army of about 60,000, and that during present conditions in Cuba and the Philippines the President should have authority to increase the force to the present number of 100,000," for "from the best information obtainable we will need in the Philippines for the immediate future from 45,000 to 60,000 men." It is suggested that it might be well to authorize the enlistment of as many as 15,000 Filipinos, to serve under American officers, as part of this force.

The President's Peroration: "The Foundation of Our Government is Liberty; Its Superstructure Peace."

The President then takes up in review some of the recommendations found in the reports of his Cabinet officers and treats of a variety of subjects. He directs attention to the public lands, but has no word to say in favor of irrigation, or of legislation to provide for their irrigation under national auspices to add to their value and availability. In this empty phrase, which quite ignores the question whether any attention shall be paid or not to the fourteenth amendment, in making the new apportionment of representation under the late census, he recommends "that the Congress at its present session apportion representation among the several states, as provided by the Constitution." As a last word he cautions the chosen representatives of the people to guard against the danger of extravagance in government expenditures and appropriations that our great prosperity invites, and in conclusion adds, in words worthy of a President of this great Republic: "Our growing power brings with it temptations and perils requiring constant vigilance to avoid. It must not be used to invite conflicts, nor for oppression, but for the more effective maintenance of those principles of equality and justice upon which our institutions and happiness depend. Let us keep always in mind that the foundation of our Government is liberty; its superstructure peace."

As Wu Ting Fang lately said, and this is applicable to nations as to individuals: "the test of loftiness of character is to possess boundless power without abusing it."

THE CHINESE QUESTION FROM AN ITALIAN POINT OF VIEW.

READING a recent article on the Chinese question in *La Nuova Antologia*, the leading Italian review, we were forcibly struck with the thought, which it would not harm us oftener to recall, that we do not play the important part in the estimation of others that we do in our own. Here we have a well versed Italian, hiding his identity behind a *nom de plume*, writing of the settlement of the Chinese question, the relations to be held between the powers and China in the future, and taking hardly any reckoning at all of the United States. It is not flattering to one's egotism and we may, perhaps, to soothe our wounded vanity, put down this lack of mention to force of habit on the eminent Italian's part. For it is only recently we have jumped into world politics.

This article in *La Nuova Antologia* may be taken as setting forth the general purpose of the countries to the triple alliance, as reflecting the general views that there hold sway and are impelling those nations to pursuit of a policy towards China, in which we would have our country disdain to participate, the policy which says: "What I have is mine, what is yours is mine also, if I can take it." As such, and also as showing how Italians feel that Italy must say thumbs down and thumbs up with Germany, with what positive alarm they view the possibility of a break in the triple alliance, this article is well worthy of citation.

"In the first place," says the anonymous reviewer, "the Chinese Empire's international position must be defined. We unreservedly uphold the integrity of China and an open door policy which, until recently, was successfully fostered by the cabinet of St. James."

We must here break in to say that the reviewer's idea of integrity is a peculiar one—is that it would be a grievous mistake for the Powers to attempt to swallow China at one gulp, that they each should take a choice little piece as a foothold and put the government of the remainder under the supervision of international commissions. "China's dismemberment," proceeds our reviewer,—and we will not be so rude as to further break into his remarks,— "would be both a political and an economical European blunder, giving rise probably to infinite complications that it

is advisable carefully to avoid. Certainly we can foresee that more than one great power will demand compensation—Russia in Manchuria, Japan in Corea, England in the Yang-tse-Kiang Valley, Germany in the north, France in the south, and so on. Such being the case, a policy of sincerity would still be the most keen-sighted. So vast is China that, with no serious consequences, she could very well appease all more or less legitimate cravings. An international congress or better yet, an agreement between the various powers, could by a joint understanding determine, within equitable and reasonable limits, what compensation should be granted. We were out and out opposed to the occupation of the desolate, sand-choked bay of San Mun; yet in China's coming reorganization—always supposing an indemnification of the other powers—even Italy may no doubt aspire to possessing a small port at the mouth or along the channel of a navigable river, and connected with China's future railway system. Still it is not a point of primary importance, and merely likely to satisfy a contingent of public opinion rather than seriously to aid Italy's commercial expansion in the East. Nor may such be secured save through a strong policy of internal economical preparation.

"Let once the eager cravings of the powers be appeased, what remains of China is so vast as to constitute an immense empire, in whose reorganization the whole of Europe, for divers motives, has no mean interest. To us it seems that a great step in the right direction would be taken by proclaiming China's neutrality under the collective guaranty of the great powers. Such a course could easily bring about the disarmament and the administrative and financial control of China. The free trade (open door) policy would find its broadest application in the new Celestial Empire, while each of the powers would at once profit by concessions granted any one of the others. The most practical plan of disarmament is that happily favored by the French minister for foreign affairs, M. Delcasse, prohibiting, as it does, international traffic in firearms and military stores with China. Even without adopting extremely vigorous measures, it is evident that deprived of war loans and outside supplies, China would cease to be a military power and a peril to Japan and to Europe. Such measures would not prove difficult in the application, because Europe not only controls the sea, but also the railroads, the main water routes, and the highways of the Celestial Empire.

"A recent and an important volume by an English admiral, Lord Beresford, who, on behalf of the British Chambers of Commerce, visited China and with practical intent studied her condition, demonstrates what and how much is urgently required in the way of internal organization. Administration, coining of money, roads, canals, police and public safety, all leave much to be desired. These wants could gradually be provided for by international commissions, which would first of all set about reorganizing the finances, and then the highways and means of communication and transportation. Thus China, instead of becoming a military menace to Europe would by degrees be unlocked to our civilization and trade to the reciprocal benefit of both continents.

"An event of as great historical importance as that of the coalition (for we can only too little be able to call it an agreement) of all civilized nations against China cannot terminate in so mean and well nigh derisory a manner as Russia would propose. It must have two necessary consequences: to make it impossible for China to become, in the more or less distant future, a military power threatening Europe; and to bring about her reorganization for the benefit of the indigenous population as well as of foreign commerce.

"Hitherto, of all the proposed solutions, none has appeared to us simpler and more practical than the one put forth in these pages: China's neutrality, gradual disarmament (even, say, after the aspirations of the States more directly interested are satisfied), and administrative reorganization under international control.

"Towards the solution of the Chinese problem Italy may usefully contribute, perchance because less interested than the other powers. In this connection it is well to recall Candia (Crete,) as a precedent, in which case the bold initiative of the Consulta and the Honorable Canavaro had the best results just as soon as Europe felt persuaded that Italy was acting solely in the interest of the independence and integrity of the island, for its people's welfare and for the maintenance of peace in Europe. A similar line of conduct may lead to results honorable to us and useful to civilization; while certainly Marquis Visconti-Venosta will not lack broad and clear views nor the authority requisite for their

discussion and furtherance. Very justly the Italian government has confined within the narrowest limits our military participation in the Chinese enterprise, and has with great wisdom been able to resist those who would have urged it to go none can say how much further. Yet this does not in the least hinder our diplomatic activity from being greater the moment it has a precise object.

"Meanwhile it behooves all not to interfere with the eventual solution of the problem—a solution that would become utterly impossible through the withdrawal of the international forces from Peking. We understand very well that Russia's amour propre may be granted a certain satisfaction by leaving for the present merely a military representation in Peking, so as to afford the St. Petersburg cabinet a decorous means of exit and of correcting, after a fashion, its mistake. An expeditionary corps should without delay traverse the road from Peking to Tien-tsin back and forward; the essential point is to have the capital of the empire remain subject to international military authority, and not to the weak and massacring Chinese court and government. Yet Russia should be the first to understand that her line of conduct is unsustainable, when she herself acknowledges that the condition of Peking is such as not to warrant her ambassador's remaining there! Is it possible, is it reasonable, that after so many sacrifices Europe will be contented with such a state of affairs.

"Fortunately, England and Germany pursue a diverse policy, whereto all Europe should in a certain way be reconciled, because even against the egotism and self-interest of cabinets principles of good sense and common right in the end must prevail. Hence, the conduct of Italy in the present phase of the Chinese problem is clearly traced: She cannot do otherwise than uphold with all her might the German and English policy in so far as it tends to prevent any reasonable settlement of matters in the extreme Orient from being compromised. Italy ought then, in our opinion, to adhere unreservedly to Germany's policy and to take advantage of her more disinterested position to aid its success. Italy ought rather to feel glad that, not on her own account, there should present itself so fair an opportunity to render in Germany's eyes all the more valuable her participation in the triple alliance, since even alliances are appreciated in proportion to the benefits derived therefrom. Let us not forget that the term of the threefold alliance and of our treaties of commerce with Germany and Austria is now drawing nigh. Only too emphasized in Germany do we perceive an agrarian current so adverse to our exportations that, were it to prevail, it would end by making not only impossible an equitable commercial treaty, but perhaps even the continuation of former political relations. We must give the German government and people a new proof of the utility of their resisting the agitation and pressure of the agrarian protectionists, in order to maintain intact the ancient compacts uniting together the nations of the triple alliance. Hence the moment is come for Italy, modestly but with firmness, to defend along with Europe's welfare, her own economical and political interests."

THE CENTURY'S WRITERS OF GREATEST INFLUENCE.

IF YOU were asked to name the ten writers of the nineteenth century whose works have had greatest influence in shaping and directing the thought of that century, would you not be puzzled? If you were further asked to single out the ten books of greatest influence, how much more would you be puzzled? And this last is the question that *The Outlook* has put to ten men eminent in letters and the field of education, men whose opinions command our respect. James Bryce of "American Commonwealth" fame; Edward Everett Hale; Dr. Gordon, pastor of Old South Church, Boston; Prof. van Dyke of Princeton; President Hadley of Yale; Dr. Fairbairn, Principal of Mansfield College, Oxford; President Hall of Clark University; William De Witt Hyde, President of Bowdoin College; William J. Tucker, President of Dartmouth; and Colonel Thomas Wentworth Higginson, a very representative set of men, have had this question put to them and made response. Their replies appear in *The Outlook* of December 1st. They show great discrepancy of opinion as to who are the ten writers of greatest influence in the century, let alone the ten books. Upon but one man and one book, Charles Darwin and his "Origin of Species," are they all agreed. No other man, no other book is named in the lists of all. Many are named in the list of but one; but three besides

Darwin—Hegel, Goethe and Mrs. Stowe—in the lists of half or more.

In summarizing the opinions registered in *The Outlook* we must leave out the list of Prof. van Dyke, for he confines himself to books written in English, and we will analyze the papers submitted on the basis of writers rather than books. For though mentioning some great man as among the ten writers of greatest influence in the century, the authorities cited above, and who so mention his name, do not, by any manner of means, pick upon the same of his works as that exercising greatest influence. So if we made the basis of analysis books instead of writers, our summary would show even less agreement than it does. Further, let it here be remarked that books and writers, in the papers submitted by the above named authorities, are taken account of not by standard of perfection, nor by the test of popularity, but by the measure of their influence.

Now, as we have said, Darwin's name comes first. All pick him as one of the ten men of the century whose writings exerted greatest influence. Next comes the name of Hegel. In eight of nine lists his name appears. Eight pick him as among the ten writers of greatest influence but they do not pick the same of his books. Edward Everett Hale alone fails to put him in the roll of honor. After Hegel comes Goethe. Six put his name, and the most of them his "Faust," on their lists. Three, Fairbairn, Hyde and Higginson, fail to name him. After Goethe comes Harriet Beecher Stowe, her "Uncle Tom's Cabin" appearing in five lists. The names of Emerson and Carlyle come next in order, four of our authorities putting them in the roll of the century's ten writers of greatest influence. The names of Scott, Tennyson, Comte, Spencer, Strauss, Wordsworth, Hugo appear in three lists; the names of de Tocqueville, Ruskin, Renan, Browning, Hawthorne, Tolstoi in two. One of our authorities, however, divides the honor of being the tenth man between Victor Hugo and Count Tolstoi. Twenty-one other worthies, Mazzini, Karl Marx, De Maistre, Malthus, James Bryce, T. H. Green, Schopenhauer, Frobel, Sainte-Beuve, Sir William Grove, Champollion, Niebuhr, Schleiermacher, Chalmers, Horace Mann, Helmholtz, Wagner, Ibsen, Lyell the geologist, Heine, Robert Owen are mentioned but once, while in one list "Napoleon's Civil Code" is named as one of the ten books of the century that has exerted the greatest influence, and in another "Daniel Webster's Speeches."

Perfect Service to Florida Via the Southern Railway.

At present two through trains leave Philadelphia, Broad Street Station, daily, carrying through Pullman drawing-room sleeping cars to Florida points via the Southern Railway. In addition to the above, on January 14th, the Florida Limited will resume service. This famous train has been operated over the Southern Railway for several seasons past. The equipment of the Florida Limited this season will be superb; in fact the very finest cars built by the Pullman Company will be operated on these trains. The Southern Railway has dining car service on all through trains.

Charles L. Hopkins, District Passenger Agent, Southern Railway, 828 Chestnut street, Phila., will take pleasure in furnishing all information.—*Adv.*

Washington—Holiday Tour via Pennsylvania Railroad.

December 27 has been selected as the date for the Personally Conducted Holiday Tour of the Pennsylvania Railroad to Washington. This tour will cover a period of three days, affording ample time to visit all the principal points of interest at the National Capitol, including the Congressional Library and the new Corcoran Art Gallery. Round-trip rate, covering railroad transportation for the round trip, hotel accommodations and guides, \$14.50 from New York; \$13.00 from Trenton and \$11.50 from Philadelphia. These rates cover accommodations for two days at the Arlington, Normandie, Riggs or Ebbitt House. For accommodations at Willard's, Regent, Metropolitan or National Hotel, \$2.50 less. Side trips to Mount Vernon, Richmond, Old Point Comfort, and Norfolk at greatly reduced rates.

All tickets good for ten days, with special hotel rates after expiration of hotel coupons.

For itineraries and full information apply to Ticket Agents; Tourist Agent, 1196 Broadway, New York; 4 Court Street, Brooklyn; or address Geo. W. Boyd, Assistant General Passenger Agent, Broad Street Station, Philadelphia.—*Adv.*

BOOK REVIEWS.

Modern Books and Modern Criticism.

Counsel Upon the Reading of Books. By H. MORSE STEPHENS, AGNES REPIPLIER, ARTHUR T. HADLEY, BRANDER MATTHEWS, BLISS PERRY and HAMILTON WRIGHT MABIE. With an introduction by Henry Van Dyke. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

While an unusually intelligent and wide awake people, we have as yet much to learn, nowhere more so than in the reading of books. The amount of time wasted over useless books is really frightful. Our people are great readers; their appetite for literature of all kinds is apparently without end. In truth, the past five years has marked a wonderful advance among our book readers in the quantity and variety of books consumed. Where they were once wont to rest satisfied with one book, we find our readers of to-day demanding a half dozen or more. It is, of course, a matter of sincere national gratification and congratulation, this increased demand for and interest in books, for it betokens very conclusively that we, as a people, are moving forward and at the same time broadening out in our minds and in our pleasures. Right here, however, do we meet a danger of no mean magnitude, and one that must have our immediate attention. It is this: Is not much, if not the greater part, of our modern literature, of such poor or mediocre character as to exert a positively bad influence? Is the literature, particularly the fiction, of our day of a derogative or of an elevating character? Does it compare favorably with the literature of other and past ages? These are questions of momentous import to our people.

We are ready to answer in the first place that it is more than true that a great part of our modern books had much better remained a dream of the author. Many books are unquestionably not worth the time consumed in the reading; many are positively a danger to the community. Our people have too much to do, and we trust enough of good American common sense, not to desire to waste their time and abuse their intelligence by reading any book other than of an elevating and beneficial tone.

To our second question we say with perfect frankness that the literature of the day that escapes our condemnatory judgment in answer to the first question, is of a character and worth that demands no apology, but excites our entire admiration and approval. And here we may answer our third question by saying that several of our modern and still producing authors are well fitted to stand before an impartial jury and alongside the well-known writers of established fame who have gone before them, and expect a verdict that need cause them neither shame nor humiliation. In comparing the authors of to-day with those of any other period we must remember that only the very best of a former period have outlived the attacks of time. So it is that we must pay but slight attention to the great majority of those who write books of but ordinary merit. Such writers are outside our present comparison altogether. From this it may be seen that we take a very hopeful view of modern literature, and we hold a more enthusiastic one of the future. As we see it the whole tendency of literature to-day is toward greater accuracy and truthfulness. The author who expects to outlive his generation is not satisfied with mere guess work and surmise, but now insists that he appreciate and understand his subject before presenting it to the examination of the world, both now and hereafter. This may very possibly, and we do not deny it, destroy much of the picturesqueness and brilliancy of language and expression so common in the writings of an older day. The sacrifice is small, however, when compared with the wonderful gain and advance made in other directions that we have already hinted at.

With the enormous number of all kinds of books before him the busy man must often pine for a method of selecting the few good from the many bad. And it is here that the honest and capable critic should step in. The range of criticism should be extended and broadened out so as to embrace all questions likely to arise in a reader's mind. It must fit all kinds of readers as it treats of all kinds of books. Now, there are many methods of criticism, but if they be truthful in the first place and worthy and capable in the second, they are all good. The times demand a fair deal from the literary critic, but we must sadly admit that so far he is not giving it in his criticisms. These do not, as they should, give the true and real opinion and judgment of the critic, who is apt, from several of many reasons, to fit his published views to the desires of author and publisher.

The present book of "Council Upon the Reading of Books" is, from our point of view, one of the most excellent bits of advice to readers we have yet seen published. The book is made

up from the University Extension lectures of a half dozen of the best and most widely known literary authorities of the day, and therefore their views and advice may probably find acceptance in the spirit it is given. Should less famous writers give the same advice and voice the same views they would be regarded as presumptuous meddlers, for when we come to think of it, it is a little audacious, this telling people what books they should and should not read. But this book must exert a wide influence for the good. It must make itself felt, and its wholesome advice must surely be taken to heart by its readers. It is a book that the literary critic would do well to read, even more so than the general reader of books. In Dr. Van Dyke's introduction we find the following :

Take with you a few plain maxims drawn from experience. Read the preface first. It was probably written last. But the author put it at the beginning because he wanted to say something particular to you before you entered the book. Go in through the front door. Read plenty of books about people and things, but not too many about books. Literature is not to be taken in emulsion. The only way to know a great author is to read his works for yourself. That will give you knowledge at first hand. Read one book at a time, but never one book alone. Well-born books always have relatives. Follow them up. Learn something about the family if you want to understand the individual. * * * Read the old books—those that have stood the test of time. Read them slowly, carefully, thoroughly. They will help you to discriminate among the new ones. Read no book with which the author has not taken pains enough to write it in a clean, sound, lucid style. Life is short. If he thought so little of his work that he left it in the rough, it is not likely to be worth your pains in reading it. Read over again the ten best books that you have already read. The result of this experiment will test your taste, measure your advance and fit you for progress in the art of reading.

Mr. Critic, admit, does not this just about fit you, and will it not be a good thing to take to heart and ruminate upon?

Prof. Brander Matthews' chapter on "The Study of Fiction" struck us as about the best and strongest in this excellent book. He grasps the true idea of what fiction is and how it should be written when he says :

"In the art of the story teller, as in any other art, the less mere form is flaunted in the eyes of the beholder the better. The simpler the manner of telling the story, the more attention will the reader be able to bestow upon the matter. So we find that the most of the great novels of the world are singularly free from intricacies of composition, and that in them the story is set forth directly either by one of the characters or by the author himself. * * * A consideration of the history of the modern novel brings out two facts. First, that the technique has been steadily improved, that the story is now told more directly, that character is now portrayed more carefully and elaborately and that the artist is more self-respecting and takes his work more seriously ; and, second, that the desire to reproduce life with all its intricacies has increased with the ability to accomplish this."

* * *

Happiness Through Sorrow.

Quicksand. By HERVEY WHITE. Boston : Smali, Maynard & Co. \$1.50.

Sadness, suffering, tragedy and death. Are they not as great educators as happiness, joy, life and love? The hard and seamy side of human life often, through its very severity and bitterness, brings us at last to a gentle and resigned feeling that while sad in the extreme is yet pure, sympathetic and beautiful. Is it not true that the man who has met defeat and loss irreparable will naturally turn for sympathy and aid to another who has likewise endured pain and suffered defeat and loss? Do we not sometimes turn with a feeling of horror from the bright and cheerful friend for the simple reason that his very cheerfulness jars upon the tender chord that has been touched by loss and suffering? God knows that we would be the last to frown upon the cheerful and gladsome man, for it is very evident that without such this old world of ours would be a habitation of despair and death. Our only reason for thus speaking of the truth and beauty of suffering, sadness and death, is to make clear that the existence of such suffering and death is by no means wholly an evil. There are many things as noble as they are beautiful and true, that man can only know through pain and death. Often a life of hopeless desolation, poverty, despair and final obscure death, has been the means of demonstrating to mankind a great and living truth. Therefore, turn not away from the man who sends us his message by such method. It is sad, but if it be true it must also be beautiful ; it may be terrible to look upon, yet contain the germ of immortal love and life ; it may be desolate, cold, seemingly tragically repellent, yet it may also conceal within this hard exterior the flame of truth everlasting

and love perpetual. No one man can tell how another's message may be received by his neighbor.

The book before us is to the point in question. It is another story following very closely the same remarkable, terrible and tragically unpleasant path set by the author's former book, "Differences." It is strong, it is intense, it is true to life, disguising nothing, open as the day, bold and courageous in every feature, a book to be remembered, but unpleasantly remembered always. Still it will have its effect with strong and mature minds, and it is only such who should read the story, only such who can appreciate its meaning and worth. The young, particularly sweet and innocent girlhood, had better not look within, for it is surely too harsh for such tender minds and bodies. It is a story speaking directly as man to man, to the children of Odin of old, who are able to give and take in the harshest battles of life, neither giving or asking quarter, bold and uncomplaining till the last. And to such Mr. White's tale will strike home with great force, and they will admire, understand and revere his great, big, warm heart and philanthropic soul that are ever working and bleeding for those children of man who must labor and die in suffering and despair. Mr. White is a unique and odd character in American literature, distinctly an unpleasant addition, though a most useful one, and if you can really understand him, one of the most sympathetic of writers. We are glad he is here, thankful for his books, but at the same time we pray and trust that others will not attempt the difficult task of walking in his footsteps.

* *

Some Thoughts on Burns.

Robert Burns. Little Journeys to the Homes of English Authors. By ELBERT HUBBARD. East Aurora, N. Y.: The Roycroft Shop.

We are always tempted when we get hands, (gentle, feeling hands they must be) on the exquisite productions of these unexcelled Roycroft bookmakers to give way to the raptures of delight their very beauty occasions, and to begin by allowing free voice to all the adjectives that leap forward, each striving above the others to honor and praise true Art, as shown in the bookmakers' handiwork. And so here. Burns loved beauty and sang of beauty and beauties love. What more fitting, then, than to apply to this perfection in bookmaking his words addressed to a creature of another Maker :

"Thus in my arms, wi' all thy charms,
I clasp my countless treasure ;
I'll seek nae mair o' heaven to share
Than sic a moment's pleasure."

But gratifying as this moment may be, we are not content to pass by all else and satiate ourselves in its enjoyment. Beyond the purely physical—that which we feel and see—there is something quite as enchanting in this little book, and of a nature that is more substantial and in its way no less beautiful. Just here there is something that suggests a parallel between this book and Bobby Burns himself. When we follow it up, however, the comparison stops half way, for while both are equally intense, so to speak, the book goes on to the higher ground which Burns seems to have missed—to his personal loss, perhaps, but to our gain, certainly. We can agree with Mr. Hubbard that Burns, because of his temperament which keyed him to the more exquisite pleasures of the moment, failed altogether to experience the higher and highest feelings love creates and reflects.

It is hard to know precisely how to characterize Mr. Hubbard's style, and thought and logic. One is safe in saying that they are original, impressive, and to a great degree captivating. Beyond this each one should judge for himself, because what Mr. Hubbard says, and the way he says it, will be likely to strike different people variously. To us his writings are always a treat—the vigor and abandon with which he expresses thoughts not less positive, acting as a stimulating tonic. One will scarcely yawn while reading anything from Mr. Hubbard's pen, and yet there is meat enough in what he serves to fully occupy the most active mind. In our opinion this little talk about Burns, and incidentally, upon a few associated subjects, is one of the strongest and most suggestive bits of writing he has given us. But it is not so much a journey to the home of Burns as one unacquainted with the method of the head Roycrofter might be lead to anticipate from the title. In passing, we wonder how our Scotch friends will take it, having their idol classed among "English Authors." But says Mr. Hubbard : "In closing, it may not be amiss for me to state that Robert Burns was an Irish poet, whose parents happened to be Scotch," a flash of wit which will not be lost on either Scot or Celt, while their beef-eating cousin will surely not

dissent from accepting title to Burns along with Goldsmith and Swift.

To end, as we began, with a word upon the mechanical part of the book. Finely and artistically printed on deckled-edged paper, with beautifully illuminated title page and initial letters, hand done in color, and containing an exceptionally fine portrait of Burns, the whole is contained in a soft brown leather binding, satin lined.

* *

Conquest of the Northwest in Story.

Alice of Old Vincennes. By MAURICE THOMPSON. Illustrations by F. C. Yohn. Indianapolis: The Bowen-Merrill Co. \$1.50.

A bright, deep, worthy and far-reaching novel in its effects upon American literature has very recently made its appearance from out of the great West in the shape of Mr. Maurice Thompson's romance of patriotism and love, "*Alice of Old Vincennes.*" Mr. Thompson has recognized the truth and force of the axiom that the most successful and the most popular novel must combine the two strongest and purest motives of the human heart and mind—namely, love and patriotism. The novel that is creditably written and that works these two forces into the web and woof of the story must always appeal with striking force and compelling interest to all readers. A novel of such a character will ever find a ready and hearty welcome so long as blood runs red in the veins of men and women, and so long as truth and nobility, love and happiness live. Now the present most excellent and deserving romance of the conquest of the great Northwest from the English by our hardy and patriotic fathers, is one that quite naturally has won an immediate, wide and very gratifying public reception. And this is well. Mr. Thompson has unquestionably given forth a novel that will stand the test of time, for it is a book not only fascinating, ennobling, glorious but also interesting, valuable, almost necessary, as a history of one of the most momentous periods in the life and history of the United States. And then, too, the story, pure and simple and taken altogether alone, is one that we gladly treasure in our memory as one thoroughly delightful, true and beautiful. Nor can we pass by the pure and tastefully finished style of writing that Mr. Thompson employs to captivate and hold his readers as cheerful and willing prisoners.

We are not ready, however, to register our opinion of this novel in such broad and sweeping assertions of praise and eulogium as we have noticed on many sides. We fear some of our book-reviewing brethren are a bit too hasty and effervescent in their present opinions and that later on they may wish to modify or even withdraw them. We are firmly convinced that this novel is a splendid one in many ways and one to which all credit is due, but we are far from ready to accord it superiority and priority over all other recent notable and famous novels. In fact, we do not think it approaches anywhere near the standard established by at least one or two of the well-known productions of other authors. But the book is a notable acquisition to the American book world, and in justice to both author and public we gladly recommend it to all lovers of the true and beautiful, as well as to the student of American history. We cannot give a better view of the character of Mr. Thompson's work than by quoting his own words from a passage, to which we would call our readers' attention, speaking of the wonderful, arduous, bold, masterful and at the same time far-reaching consequences of Colonel Clark's victory over the British and the conquest of the great Northwest.

"We look back with a shiver of awe at the three hundred Spartans for whom Simonides composed his matchless epitaph. They wrought and died gloriously; that was Greek. The one hundred and seventy men who, led by the backwoodsman, Clark, made conquest of an empire's area for freedom in the West, wrought and lived gloriously; that was American. It is well to bear in mind this distinction by which our civilization separates itself from that of old times. Our heroism has always been of life—our heroes have conquered and lived to see the effect of conquest. We have fought all sorts of wars and have never yet felt defeat. Washington, Jackson, Taylor, Grant, all lived to enjoy, after successful war, a triumphant peace, 'These Americans,' said a witty Frenchman, 'are either enormously lucky, or possessed of miraculous vitality. You rarely kill them in battle, and if you wound them their wounds are never mortal. Their history is but a chain of impossibilities easily accomplished. Their undertakings have been without preparation, their successes in the nature of stupendous accidents.' Such a statement may appear critically sound from a Gallic point of view, but it leaves out the dominant element of American character, namely, heroic efficiency. From the first we have had the courage to undertake, the practical common sense which overcomes the lack of technical training,

and the vital force which never flags under the stress of adversity. . . . Clark was not yet twenty-seven when he made his famous campaign. A tall, brawny youth, whose frontier experience had enriched a native character of the best quality, he marched on foot at the head of his little column and was first to test every opposing danger. Was there a stream to wade or swim? Clark enthusiastically shouted, 'Come on!' and in he plunged. Was there a lack of food? 'I'm not hungry,' he cried. 'Help yourselves, men!' Had some poor soldier lost his blanket? 'Mine is in my way,' said Clark. 'Take it, I'm glad to get rid of it!' His men loved him and would die rather than fall short of his expectations. The march before them lay over a magnificent plain, mostly prairie, rich as the delta of the Nile, but extremely difficult to traverse. The distance, as the route led, was about a hundred and seventy miles. On account of an open and rainy winter all the basins and flat lands were inundated, often presenting leagues of water ranging in depth from a few inches to three or four feet. Cold winds blew, sometimes with spits of snow and dashes of sleet, while thin ice formed on the ponds and sluggish streams. By day progress meant wading ankle-deep, knee-deep, breast-deep, with an occasional spurt of swimming. By night the brave fellows had to sleep, if sleep they could, on the cold ground in soaked clothing under water-heavy blankets. They flung the leagues behind them, however, cheerfully stimulating one another by joke and challenge, defying all the bitterness of weather, all the bitings of hunger, all the toil, danger and deprivation of a trackless and houseless wilderness, looking only eastward, following their youthful and intrepid commander to one of the most valuable victories gained by American soldiers during the War of the Revolution."

BRIEFER NOTICES.

The Friendly Year. Chosen and Arranged from the Works of Henry van Dyke. By GEORGE SIDNEY WEBSTER. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. \$1.25.

Few, indeed, are there to-day in this great country of ours whose writings could be made to supply fitting material for such a book as that before us. We would go still further than this and ask where among living Americans is another whose written words contain more for humanity than those of Dr. Henry van Dyke? It has been given him to get close to the hearts and consciences of men, to understand and feel for them, and whenever he speaks, no matter what the subject which unseals his lips, it seems as though his words bore a message for mankind. At least they have a way of taking hold of one and encouraging him for the better. They carry a something which seeks out and electrifies the good in us. They come not with demands to force us, but with appeals, often silently uttered, but none the less irresistible. Finding us going wrong, at cuts with the world and disgusted with ourselves, they do not spurn us, they do not even chide us; on the contrary they offer us a friendly hand backed by a warm heart that sympathizes with us in our misery, and, winning our confidence, ends by showing us the path of righteousness and giving us courage and strength to follow it. This has Dr. van Dyke done for thousands he knows not of, unless their heartfelt thanks have somehow penetrated the realms of space and material, and, in a language not of words, recorded a message and a benediction on the soul that has succored them in their need.

But what is the little book that calls forth from their resting places in mind and heart the thoughts just voiced? A year-book of selections from the writings of Dr. van Dyke, chosen and arranged by the Rev. George Sidney Webster, who deserves full commendation for the admirable way in which he has acquitted himself of his self-imposed task. Mr. Webster has been particularly successful in bringing out what he very aptly calls "the dominant note of human friendliness and comradeship, which runs through the writings" of Dr. van Dyke. Small though this book be, the comparatively few and short extracts it contains are yet sufficient to bear ample witness to the right Dr. van Dyke has justly and fairly won to the exalted but responsible position of a guide for mortal men and women. One will do well to get this book, from which he can safely read each morning the few words for that day, try to follow them in letter and spirit during it and in the evening re-read them and see how nearly he has succeeded. Good will surely result from such a course both to you individually and to the greater world, and you will soon be heartily gratified that you have pursued it. There is nourishment here for all—faith for the doubting, hope for the discouraged, love for the heartsick, joy for the sad, rest for the weary, courage for the failing—everything that leads on and upward, nothing that bears down.

Daintily printed and bound, with a new photogravure por-

trait of Dr. van Dyke, there is not likely to be any book on the stands which will make a more appropriate or highly prized Christmas book than this.

.

The Weird Orient. Nine Mystic Tales. By HENRY ILIOWIZI. Philadelphia: Henry T. Coates & Co. \$1.50.

The eminently practical mind of the West finds it difficult to take seriously the Idealistic Oriental way of thought. There is something of the Aladdin's lamp kind which seems beyond all serious belief. On the other hand, it will hardly be denied by anyone who has made a serious study of the Eastern mind and Eastern philosophy that both are grounded deeper than anything we can boast. The Hindu seer tests all things by reason, and when he finds some belief fails to stand before its searching light rays he has the moral courage to discard that belief as false and harmful. The fact is the Eastern and Western minds are so differently constituted that it is practically impossible for the one to become reconciled with the distinctive characteristics of the other. So it is hard for us to accept their folklore and legends as other than fairy tales, brilliantly imaginative and gorgeously arrayed.

Before us we have a collection of nine such legends which will not disappoint the one who craves something decidedly out of the ordinary. Mr. Iliowizi resided several years at Tetuan, Morocco, and it was while there that he gathered up these nine tales. The plan he adopted to get hold of them was worthy of the cunning of the Oriental himself, and because of its ingenuity not less than its successful result, is worthy of mention here. The habit of the East is to retire within itself and hold sacred from the defiling touch and sight of the outside world those things which are nearest its heart. Of course folk-lore and legends are within this category, and, what is more, they exist almost entirely in unwritten form, being passed from generation to generation by word of mouth. Rabbi Iliowizi, appreciating how rich these legends of the East are, conceived the idea of capturing some of them and presenting them to the Western world. Direct efforts only caused those who knew them to draw back and seal their lips in imperturbable silence. But the author had not lived among Eastern peoples without learning something of their characteristics, and upon this knowledge he acted. At his suggestion a social club was organized by the foreign residents, which offered competitive prizes to those natives who should tell the best and most captivating stories. So it was that Mr. Iliowizi entrapped the wily ones and secured what he wanted without their being conscious of it. In his preface he tells us that for the bulk of the material contained in this volume, he is indebted to a Bombay Parsee, Yokoub Malek, a decidedly unique and interesting character of whom he gives us a brief sketch. The book is illustrated by a photogravure and three half tones. The cover design hints strongly of what is to be found within.

.

The Eagle's Heart. By HAMLIN GARLAND. New York: D. Appleton & Co. \$1.50.

We admire, revere, almost love, Hamlin Garland, for his great sincerity of purpose and perfect naturalism. We respect and endorse his writings for the reason that they picture life, not as we would make it, not as it might and can be, but life as it is, in fact, in daily life, all about us, on every hand. Every mature and intelligent mind craves for the author who can and will present facts as they are—even if they be hard facts—facts pure and simple, facts without adornment. We have no patience now-a-days to bother over the impossible and unreal books of fiction. They were all very well in their day, but that day has gone now, we hope and believe forever. At last our people, that is those who think and do, have come to realize that a book to be useful, elevating, yes, interesting, must be a true book and a natural one. And life as we see it every working day, not life on Sunday, (for then we are all very apt to be unnatural and artificial), is and must ever continue to be, the most engrossing subject for study. It will be asked, does not the busy man desire that which will take him entirely out of and beyond the scenes of his work-a-day life? Does not mankind now and then rejoice in the prospect of dropping everything, forgetting everybody and self? While it is undeniably true that we all of us at times would like to be as free as the sunshine, and as light as air, rambling where fancy listeth, we cannot agree that such is usually the case. Pleasure soon ceases to be an object sought after if we get too much. It is, therefore, best that we mix our joys with

[Continued on page 210.]

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.

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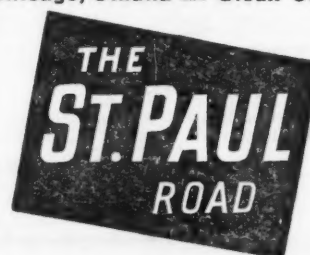
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